Nifedpine
Reserpine
Guanethidine and anti-diabetic drugs e.g.
Insulin Inj.
Tolbutamide
Glybenclamide
Chlorpropamide
Phenformin
Mettormin are used required.

(h) Under the National Programme for control of Blindness the following Centres have been strengthened for Control of Blindness:

Block level Health Centres	—3716
District Hospital	—404
Ophth. Deptt. of Medical Colleges	— 60
Regional Eye Institutes	— 9
Dr. R.P. Centre, New Delhi.	— 1

(i) Antibiotic Eye ointment tubes for follow up of Trachoma Control.

(j) Some of the medicines are costly.

(k) Essential Medicines used in the Blindness Control Programme are covered under the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987 announced by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

Irregularities in NCERT

1069. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several irregularities have been found in the functioning of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, as indicated in the audit report for this *nstitution*; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to rectify these irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SAHI): (a) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has made certain observations/comments on some aspects of the working of National Council of Educational Research and Training in its Audit Report of 1988 for the year ending March, 1987.

(b) Necessary follow-up action has been initiated by the NCERT on these observations.

Checking the population growth rate

1070. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population growth rate has shown an increase during the last few years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to arrest this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The natural growth rate of pouplation is obtained as difference between birth and death rates as available from Sample Registration System of the Registrar General, India. The latest estimates of natural growth rate at national level for the last five years are given below:

Year	Natural Growth Rate
1982	2·19%
1983	2·18%
1984	2.13%
1985	2.11%
1986	2.15%

(b) The main reason for higher growth rate is steeper decline in death rates as compared to birth rates.

(c) To control population growth rate of the country, Family Welfare Programme has a well defined strategy which is constantly reviewed This strategy emphasises an optimal use of infrastructure created involvement of voluntary organisations; improving quality of services; enhancing child survival strengthening of information, education and communication; promotion of temporary contraceptive methods etc.

Development of Roadways and Waterways of Andhra Pradesh

1071. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will thre Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had held discussions with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh some time back regarding development of roadways and waterways in that State;

(b) if so, what were the major aspects of the discussion held; and

(c) what steps have been taken to implement those programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Opposition of National Convention of College and University teachers to the Concept of Autonomous Colleges

1072. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national convention of college and university teachers was held in New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, whether the convention has decided not to accept the concept of autonomous colleges and accreditation Council; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The convention was organised by the Delhi University Teachers Association.

(b) According to reports which appeared in the Press, the Convention resolved that the concept paper on autonomous colleges and Accreditation Council system prepared by the UGC was unacceptable.

(c) The scheme of autonomous colleges has been under implementation since 1978. The National Policy on Education—1986 envisages the development of autonomous colleges in larger numbers. It is an experiment in decentralisation of academic administration and encouragement to innovation and curricular reforms. As for the Accreditation Council, the concept paper prepared by the UGC is intended for wider discussion only. The views expressed by the Convention and those received from other forums will be taken into account before any final decision is taken on this proposal.

मदिरापान तथा धूम्रपान से दिल का दौरा तथा कैंसर

1073. श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि विभिन्न अनुसंधान रिपोर्टों तथा समाचार पत्रों की खबरों में बताया गया है कि मद्यपान और धूम्रपान करने से मानव स्वास्थ्य पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है तथा कैंसर और दिल के दौरे के यही मुख्य कारण हैं ;